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EJW

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : JAMES. A. HELLBUSCH, ET AL. GROUP NO.: 1744  
SERIAL NO. : 09/970,594 EXAMINER: E. McKane  
FILED : October 4, 2001 CONF. NO.: 1193  
TITLE : BRINE MAKER

FIFTH STATUS INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Applicants filed the above-identified application on October 4, 2001, and received Serial No. 09/970,594 as evidenced by a copy of the filing receipt attached hereto. Applicants have filed four previous status inquiries in this matter and on August 5, 2004, applicants received a notice (a copy of which is enclosed) from the Patent Office projecting that the application would be examined in 0 to 3 months from said date. On September 24, 2004, applicants received a second notice (a copy of which is enclosed) from the Patent Office projecting that the application would be examined in 0 to 3 months from said date. Applicants respectfully inquire as to the status of this application.



Respectfully submitted,

SHANE M. NIEBERGALL

Registration No. 44,974

THOMTE, MAZOUR & NIEBERGALL

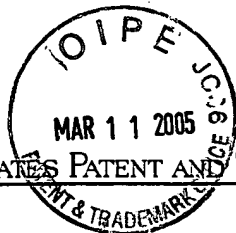
Attorneys of Record

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(402) 392-2280

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the original of this STATUS INQUIRY for JAMES A. HELLBUSCH, ET AL., Serial No. 09/970,594, was mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313, on this 8th day of March, 2005.

SHANE M. NIEBERGALL



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
09/970,594	10/04/2001	1723	388		7	22	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 1193

22885  
ZARLEY MCKEE THOMTE VOORHEES & SEASE PLC  
SUITE 3200  
801 GRAND AVENUE  
DES MOINES, IA 50309-2721

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000007003006\*

FI

Date Mailed: 10/31/2001

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

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Dale L. Plugge, Columbus, NE;

## IN COMPUTER

Matter # P05433450Client # D610-5

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 10/31/2001

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

Non-Publication Request: Yes

Early Publication Request: No

\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\*

Title

Brine maker

Preliminary Class

210



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
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Date: 8/5/04

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To: Applicant of Serial Number 09970594 (Art Unit 1744)

We project that this application will be first examined in 0 to 3 months from today.

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Phone Number: 571-272-1700

FAX Number: 703-872-9309

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Date: 9/24/04

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